# VA Benefits for Servicemembers Entering the Physical Evaluation Board

This fact sheet provides important VA benefits information for servicemembers entering the Physical Evaluation Board (PEB) process. You may call 1-800-827-1000 to learn more about applying for these and other VA benefits or to locate the nearest VA office where you can receive personal assistance. You may also visit VA's web site at <a href="http://www.va.gov">http://www.va.gov</a> for more information.

## What Is VA Disability Compensation?

Disability compensation is a monthly benefit paid to veterans for disabilities resulting from injuries or diseases incurred or aggravated during military service. The amount of benefit varies based on the degree of your disabilities and the number of your dependents. Claims may be filed with VA up to 180 days prior to separation. Receipt of military longevity or disability retirement, disability severance pay, or separation incentives can affect the amount of VA compensation paid.

#### What VA Health Care Benefits Are Available?

VA provides free health care to veterans with combat service for conditions possibly related to military service for a period of five years, beginning on the date of their separation from active military service. Additionally, one-time dental treatment is available up to 180 days following separation if you were not provided treatment within the 90-day period preceding your separation. VA health care is also available while on active duty in emergency situations and upon referral by military treatment facilities or TRICARE. Veterans with disabilities that VA determines are related to their military service are entitled to free lifetime health care for those disabilities and are assigned to priority groupings in the VA health care system.

# What Is Important to Know About VA Insurance Benefits?

Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) is low-cost life insurance for servicemembers and reservists. Veterans Group Life Insurance (VGLI) is a program of post-separation insurance and allows servicemembers to convert their SGLI coverage to renewable term insurance. If you have an SGLI policy and are totally disabled when you separate from service, you may be able to keep your SGLI coverage for up to 2 years at no cost. Traumatic Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (TSGLI) is a disability rider to the SGLI program that provides automatic traumatic injury coverage to all servicemembers covered under the SGLI program who experience certain severe losses due to traumatic injuries. If you have suffered such a loss, call 1-800-419-1473 to learn how to make a claim for the TSGLI benefit.

## What Other Disability-Related Benefits Are Available?

**Automobile Allowance -** Servicemembers and veterans may be eligible for financial assistance to purchase a vehicle and/or adapt a vehicle to accommodate certain qualifying disabilities (e.g., loss or permanent loss of use of one or both hands or one or both feet and certain other mobility or vision impairments) incurred during active military service.

**Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) -** Servicemembers awaiting discharge from the service because of a disability may be eligible for VR&E services to assist in becoming suitably employed or achieving independence in daily living. An individualized rehabilitation program is developed based on your needs and abilities. Additional information is available at <a href="http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/vre">http://www.vba.va.gov/bln/vre</a>.

**Home Modifications -** VA has programs available to help veterans and servicemembers with certain disabilities acquire a home with special features to accommodate their disability-related needs or to make special adaptations to their existing homes.

For More Information, Visit Our Web Site at <a href="http://www.va.gov">http://www.va.gov</a> or Call Toll-Free

Disability Benefits/General Information: 1-800-827-1000 Insurance: 1-800-669-8477 Education: 1-888-442-4551 Health Benefits: 1-877-222-8387